

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A production method for a solid electrolytic capacitor which includes a capacitor element including an anode coated with a dielectric oxide film, and an electrically conductive polymer layer provided therein, the method comprising the steps of:

mixing ~~at least one member selected from~~ a metal salt of an alkoxybenzenesulfonic acid ~~and a metal salt of an alkylsulfonic acid~~ as an oxidizing agent, with an electrically conductive polymer in a solvent; and

immersing the capacitor element in the resulting mixture solution, and forming the electrically conductive polymer layer in the capacitor element by thermal polymerization.

Claim 2 (Original): A solid electrolytic capacitor production method as set forth in claim 1, wherein a metal for the metal salt is a transition metal selected from the group consisting of iron (III), copper, chromium, cerium, manganese and zinc.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A solid electrolyte capacitor production method for a solid electrolytic capacitor which includes a capacitor element including an anode coated with a dielectric oxide film, and an electrically conductive polymer layer provided therein, the method comprising

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/541,873
Reply to OA dated May 25, 2007

the steps of:

mixing an oxidizing agent with an electrically conductive polymer in a solvent,
immersing the capacitor element in the resulting mixture solution, and
forming the electrically conductive polymer layer in the capacitor element by thermal
polymerization,

wherein the oxidizing agent is a mixture of at least ~~[[one]]~~ a metal alkoxybenzenesulfonate
and ~~at least one~~ a metal alkylsulfonate.